

Flushing Council on the Culture and the Arts, the Pride of Judea Mental Health Center and Queensboro Council For Social Welfare.

Mr. Speaker, for her many contributions, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Lucy Nunziato.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOHN AND
LOUISE RODRIGUEZ

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 2, 2002

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor a couple whose dedication and commitment to one another, and their family, embodies the spirit of family values in my state and this nation. Through times of joy, and times of sadness, John and Louise Rodriguez have upheld their marriage vows to one another for thirty-seven years. Born and raised in the City of Pueblo, Colorado, John and Louise are valued members of the community as parents, citizens, and volunteers. Together, they have conducted themselves with honesty and integrity over their lifetime and I stand today to pay tribute to their lives.

Married on April 24, 1965, John and Louise will soon be joined in the celebration of their thirty-seventh wedding anniversary by their four children, John, Janelle, Jeffery, and Julianne. Sadly, one member of the Rodriguez family will be missed in their gathering, Julie Cherie, their first-born child. She was born on January 2, 1966, but sadly was diagnosed with cancer of the liver, and passed away in August of 1968. The couple's dedication to their family is evident in their approach to this trying time; Louise spent two years living in Denver to be with her daughter at a hospital, while John worked to provide for his family at CF&I in Pueblo, commuting weekly to visit his daughter and wife in Denver.

Throughout their lives, John and Louise instilled strong family values by rearing their children in the Roman Catholic Church. They emphasized the value of education from early on in their childhoods, and encouraged the children to attend and receive college degrees. Today their children are proud college graduates and with the continuing support of their parents, are succeeding in their own personal endeavors. During their children's early years, John could be found working hard at the wire mill at CF&I to support their family, while Louise maintained the home front and provided a solid base for raising the children. As the children matured and attended college, Louise began work as a medical transcriptionist at various doctors' offices and at St. Mary-Corwin Hospital. Today, Louise is the proud owner of her own medical transcription service and John is often found volunteering his time and efforts to helping handicapped children safely access school buses for School District 60.

Mr. Speaker, those who know the couple best often remark on the evident love for one another and their children. Through the good times and the bad, the Rodriguez's have remained committed not only to their vows, but their family. John and Louise have served as true role models for their four children and their community, and I am honored to pay trib-

ute to John and Louise before this body of Congress and this nation. They are a model American family and I am honored to represent them.

HONORING THE 51ST NATIONAL
DAY OF PRAYER "AMERICA
UNITED UNDER GOD"

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 2, 2002

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my heartiest wishes on the observance of the 51st National Day of Prayer.

The National Day of Prayer has been an occasion for countless Americans to give thanks for their blessings and ask for God's support. As our service men and women defend the United States in distant lands and families continue to heal from the tragedies of September 11, 2001, this National Day of Prayer is certainly an occasion worthy of special recognition.

In 1952, an act of Congress created The National Day of Prayer. With hard work, this occasion has been celebrated annually since its introduction. In 1988, the National Day of Prayer was set on the first Thursday of each May.

The theme of the 51st National Day of Prayer is "America United Under God." As our nation continues to rebuild its faith and commitment to each other, the theme "America United Under God" encourages a renewed spirit of patriotism in our great nation. Hopefully, you will unite in a special prayer for those unfortunately suffering throughout the world—in birth, life and death.

Mr. Speaker, as May 2, 2002 has been designated as The National Day of Prayer, I would ask that my colleagues join me in offering a special prayer for our service men and women as well as all those unfortunately suffering throughout the world.

EXPORT-IMPORT BANK
REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2002

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2871) to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank of the United States, and for other purposes:

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Chairman, I appreciate Chairman NEY's concerns regarding the operation of the Export-Import Bank and I share many of them. Ex-Im plays an important role in fostering trade and leveling the playing field for U.S. exports. However, it is absolutely unacceptable for Ex-Im to support transactions that compromise our national security. I have closely monitored the transaction that Mr. NEY has highlighted and while I did not find any wrongdoing by Ex-Im, I am troubled by the approach Ex-Im took while reviewing this deal.

I am confident that the State Department does a good job in monitoring violations of the

Arms Export Control Act, and if there was a serious problem they would be able to successfully stop a transaction. The problem is that bad transactions should not have to reach that level, they should not be approved by the Ex-Im Board in the first place. I do hope that in the future, Ex-Im takes very seriously these issues and works to limit transactions with entities that have violated U.S. national security laws.

As far as legislative remedies are concerned, I appreciate all the efforts by my good friend from Ohio. I am committed to work closely with him as we consider changes to Ex-Im's Charter in order to ensure that our national security is not compromised.

HEBREW UNION COLLEGE—JEWISH
INSTITUTE OF RELIGION

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 2, 2002

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize an outstanding Jewish educational institution, the Hebrew Union College—Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC—JIR) on the historic occasion of its first rabbinic ordination. This weekend's ordination, taking place on Sunday May 5th at Wilshire Boulevard Temple, will be the first of its kind on the West Coast and it bears testament to the significant growth and importance of the Reform Jewish movement in California and the West Coast.

I am proud of HUC—JIR's accomplishments, proud of the rabbis who will be ordained this weekend and proud of the fact that from this weekend forward, Reform Rabbis will be ordained in my home city, Los Angeles. HUC—JIR is the nation's oldest institute of higher Jewish education and the academic, spiritual and professional development center of Reform Judaism. It is an organization dedicated to providing leadership for and strengthening the growing Jewish communities and Reform Congregations throughout the West Coast.

The HUC—JIR has a long, well known, and successful history educating men and women for service to American and world Jewry as rabbis, cantors, educators and communal service professionals and offering graduate and postgraduate degree programs for scholars of all faiths. It is also known for its vast array of scholarly resources, including a renowned library, archive and museum collections, biblical archaeology excavations, and academic publications. The College-Institute makes its resources available to the community and also provides an assortment of cultural and educational programs that help illuminate Jewish history, culture and contemporary creativity.

I am very pleased that the Los Angeles Rabbinic Program has been expanded to become a comprehensive program culminating in ordination, and I am pleased to recognize the inaugural class of newly ordained Rabbis: Shawna Elise Brynjegard-Bialik, Miriam Lisa Cotzin, John Rothschild Fishman, Melissa Lynn Fogel, Robert William Haas, Tali Esther Hyman, Kennard Kipman and Karen Shahon Strok. I wish the best for each of these new Rabbis and I am confident they will accomplish great things.